



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:	Lawrence J. Thomas
Serial No.:	09 845,511
Filed:	April 30, 2001
Entitled:	PLASMID-BASED VACCINE FOR TREATING ATHEROSCLEROSIS

Atty. Docket No.: TCS-414.2P US-1

ART UNIT: 1632

EXAMINER: D. Nguyen

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RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated November 12, 2002. A petition for a three-month extension of time is filed concurrently herewith under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(1), together with the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3), making the new response deadline Monday, May 12, 2003.

No amendments are made in the claims.

REMARKS

With regard to paragraph 2, page 2 of the Office Action, new formal drawings are submitted herewith which address the comments of the official draftsman on Form PTO-948.

With regard to paragraph 3, page 2 of the Office Action, a second copy of the IDS and references is provided herewith to replace the previously filed IDS, which the Examiner reported as misplaced. No fee is believed to be due with this re-submission, however if any fee is determined to be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge it to PTO Deposit Account No. 50-0268.

There is only one rejection set forth in the Office Action of November 12, 2002. There are no art rejections. Claims 17-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for